

PLAYLIST DOWNLOADING FOR DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK

Change(s) applied
to document,
/M.C.E./
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RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This patent application is being co-filed on the same date as the patent applications entitled "Hybrid Set-Top Box for Digital Entertainment Network" (Rutan & Tucker, LLP docket no. 021055.0007US1), "Device Discovery for Digital Entertainment Network" (Rutan & Tucker, LLP docket no. 021055.0006US1), and "System and Method for Sharing Playlists" (Rutan & Tucker, LLP docket no. 021055.0004US1).

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates generally to a method and system for playing music. The present invention relates more particularly to a digital entertainment network wherein playlists are obtained by communicating attributes of the playlists to a playlist server and wherein songs are obtained by communicating information representative of the songs to a content server.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Traditionally, music has been provided to listeners by either a broadcast method or a purchase method. According to the broadcast method, music is broadcast to listeners by such means as radio and cable systems. The owners of the music are typically compensated by the broadcaster via either the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) or Broadcast Music Incorporated (BMI). These two agencies monitor the playing of music by broadcasters, collect royalties from the broadcasters, and distribute the royalties to the copyright owners of the music.

[0004] However, according to the broadcast method the listener has little or no control over which selections are played. Generally, a listener must tune in to a radio